

---

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

---

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII  
COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES, AND  
HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED TO COLLABORATE TO ESTABLISH A  
NUTRIENT RECYCLING CENTER PILOT PROJECT.

1 WHEREAS, the State supports efforts that strengthen  
2 Hawaii's self-sustainability; and  
3

4 WHEREAS, self-sustainability is furthered by efforts that  
5 develop Hawaii's own secure production of food, fiber, and fuel;  
6 and  
7

8 WHEREAS, nutrient recycling fosters agricultural production  
9 by building soil health and fertility; and  
10

11 WHEREAS, without nutrient recycling, nutrients flow from  
12 farmland into aquifers and shorelines, which depletes nutrients  
13 in the soil and forces farmers to use commercial fertilizers  
14 that consume fossil fuels during fertilizer production; and  
15

16 WHEREAS, the use of commercial fertilizers decreases soil  
17 health and species diversity, creates increased pesticide use,  
18 and reduces the nutrient density of food; and  
19

20 WHEREAS, nutrient recycling puts end products back into the  
21 land-based food chain instead of generating waste or causing  
22 pollution as with food waste; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, nutrient recycling benefits local agriculture by  
25 lowering production costs, increasing yields, and leaving the  
26 soil in revitalized condition; and  
27

28 WHEREAS, nutrient recycling also reduces waste streams; and  
29



1 WHEREAS, research conducted at nutrient recycling centers  
2 focuses on a whole system of agriculture, identifying the  
3 optimum overall solution instead of one that just produces the  
4 highest crop yield; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, a nutrient recycling center in Hawaii would  
7 promote environmental, economic, and social benefits for the  
8 State along with food and energy security for Hawaii residents;  
9 now, therefore,  
10

11 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
12 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the  
13 House of Representatives concurring, that the Chairperson of the  
14 Board of Agriculture is requested to collaborate with the Hawaii  
15 Farmers Union United and the University of Hawaii College of  
16 Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources to establish a nutrient  
17 recycling center pilot project on Maui; and  
18

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the nutrient recycling center  
20 be located near prime agriculture land on Maui; and  
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the nutrient recycling center  
23 pilot project:  
24

- 25 (1) Create an inventory of available resources for farming  
26 inputs;  
27
- 28 (2) Identify key stakeholders in the State and throughout  
29 the counties;  
30
- 31 (3) Segregate materials to stockpile and process,  
32 including segregation of organic and non-organic  
33 inputs and beneficial microbial inoculants for  
34 remediation of potential contaminants;  
35
- 36 (4) Develop methodology for complete composting process  
37 and distribution;  
38
- 39 (5) Collaborate with local restaurants to establish farm-  
40 to-table recycling of nutrients;  
41



- 1 (6) Develop best use practices for compost and local  
2 nutrient production;  
3  
4 (7) Quantify the economic impacts of nutrient recycling;  
5 and  
6  
7 (8) Consider the issues of regulatory barriers, landfill  
8 solid waste diversion, and "buy local" marketing and  
9 outreach; and  
10

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the nutrient recycling center  
12 pilot project location be used as an information center for  
13 local farmers to disseminate information to Maui farmers as well  
14 as collect and utilize the expertise of local farmers and  
15 professionals in the agricultural industry; and  
16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the nutrient recycling center  
18 pilot project offer hands-on workshops for local farmers; and  
19

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture  
21 and Hawaii Farmers Union United are requested to submit a report  
22 of findings and recommendations related to the nutrient  
23 recycling center pilot project, including any proposed  
24 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior  
25 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016; and  
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
29 Board of Agriculture, Dean of the University of Hawaii College  
30 of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and President of  
31 the Hawaii Farmers Union United Board of Directors.

